

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

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E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAIR, US, UK
SUBJECT: CIVAIR: U.S.-U.K. CONSULTATIONS, SEPT. 7-8

REF: STATE 197657

1. POINTS PARA 3 REFTTEL REVIEWED AUGUST 7 WITH IAN BROWN, U.K. DEPARTMENT OF TRADE, WHO CONFIRMED THAT U.K. EMBASSY WASHINGTON HAD ACCURATELY TRANSMITTED THEM. NOTING THAT U.K.'S OFFICIAL REPLY WOULD GO THROUGH SAME CHANNEL, BROWN SAID U.K. HAS NO DESIRE TO DISCUSS UNNECESSARILY A PROBLEM LIKELY TO GO AWAY, AND THAT THEREFORE IT APPEARS THAT THE U.K. WILL ACCEPT THE U.S.-PROPOSED DATES, PARTICULARLY IN LIGHT OF THE U.S. ASSURANCES THAT THE DELAY WILL NOT BE USED TO PREJUDICE THE BRITISH POSITION. (BROWN

..

NOTED THAT A SEPT. 14 DATE HAS ALSO BEEN MENTIONED, BUT THOUGHT THAT WOULD REALLY BE DELAYING TOO LONG.)

2. OWEN KEMMIS WOULD HEAD U.K. DELEGATION. JOHN STEELE'S NAME COULD APPEAR ON THE DELEGATION LIST, BUT HE WILL BE EITHER ON LEAVE OR AT THE FARNBOROUGH AIR SHOW, AND NOT AVAILABLE FOR EVEN A TOKEN APPEARANCE AT THE TABLE. HOWEVER, STEELE WOULD HOPE TO ARRANGE SOCIAL
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OCCASION ONE EVENING WHICH WOULD PROVIDE SOME OPPORTUNIT FOR SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION BETWEEN HIMSELF AND ATWOOD.

3. CIVAIR ATTACHE NOTED THAT U.S. MIGHT WISH TO ADD ISSUE OF BUDGET AND STANDBY SALES AND ADVERTISING RESTRICTIONS TO THE SEPTEMBER AGENDA. BROWN INDICATED NO OBJECTION, BUT ASKED TO BE INFORMED PROMPTLY WHEN

U.S. MAKES UP ITS MIND. HE ALSO WISHES TO KNOW
PROMPTLY OF CAB DECISION REGARDING LEVEL OF PANAM
BUDGET FARE OUT OF HOUSTON 7AS PROMISED STATE 195720).

4. IN SETTING CONSULTATION SCHEDULE, DEPARTMENT MAY
WISH TO CONSIDER IN ADDITION BROWN LETTER OF AUGUST 2
TO TWA, IN WHICH TWA REQUEST TO INITIATE NON-STOP
SERVICE FROM PHILADELPHIA ON OCTOBER 9 RATHER THAN
NOVEMBER 1 WAS TURNED DOWN UNDER THE LAST SENTENCE OF
ANNEX 2, PARA (3). (BROWN COMMENTED THAT TWA HAD
NOT DONE ITS CASE ANY GOOD BY SUBMITTING ITS REQUEST
AS AN AMENDMENT TO ITS 78-79 WINTER SCHEDULES RATHER
THAN AS AN AMENDMENT TO ITS 78 SUMMER SCHEDULES, WHICH
IT REALLY WAS.)

5. LIKE MOST GOVERNMENTS, THE UKG TENDS TO AVOID ANY
CONTROVERSIAL DECISIONS JUST PRIOR TO AN ELECTION,
EVEN IF THE CONTROVERSY WOULD IN ALL PROBABILITY BE
MINOR. HOWEVER, STEELE'S REFERENCE TO GREATER WILLING-
NESS TO RECONSIDER BOSTON DUAL DESIGNATION AFTER THE
ELECTION SEEMS TO RELATE SIMPLY TO THE DIFFICULTY OF
GETTING ANYONE TO FOCUS ON ANY BUT THE MOST URGENT
PROBLEMS JUST BEFORE AN ELECTION, NOT ONLY BECAUSE
OF MINISTERS' IMMERSION IN ELECTION-RELATED ACTIVITIES
BUT ALSO BECAUSE NO ONE CAN TELL WHETHER THE NEW ONES
WILL PURSUE THE SAME POLICIES AS THEIR PREDECESSORS.
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(THERE HAS BEEN PRESS SPECULATION THAT DELL MIGHT MOVE
ON, PERHAPS TO THE TREASURY, EVEN IN THE EVENT OF A
LABOR VICTORY.) WE HAVE NO BASIS FOR KNOWING WHETHER
STEELE FEELS A CHANGE WOULD ENHANCE OR DIMINISH THE
CHANCES OF A BRITISH SHIFT ON THIS POINT, BUT AT LEAST
A NEW SECRETARY OF STATE WOULD NOT BE IDENTIFIED WITH
THE PRESENT REFUSAL.

BREWSTER

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